



REPORT

OF THE

Montreal Ladies' Educational Association.

SECOND SESSION,

1872-73.

MONTREAL:

"GAZETTE" PRINTING HOUSE, CORNER CRAIG AND ST. FRANCOIS XAVIER STS.

1873.

REPORT

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Montreal Ladies' Educational Association.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE,

MAY 5th, 1873.

We cheerfully take up the task of giving an account of the work of the Association during the past year, because of the success that has attended its efforts.

The Programme of this winter's lectures has been somewhat more varied than the last; six courses having been delivered instead of four, by six different Professors. Of these, the Early English History as far as the reign of Henry III., and the English Literature of the same period, may be considered one course; other two were upon Chemistry and Physiology, the former chosen, not for its own interest only, but as the handmaid of the latter subject.

The able and interesting lectures on English History by Professor GOLDWIN SMITH attracted large numbers of students and auditors. Forty-two enrolled their names as students, but only twenty-five of these came up for examination. Four withdrew, and Professor SMITH writes of the others:—"I send, in a registered letter, the certificates, twenty-one in number (all fairly earned), and a paper in which the names of the candidates are arranged in four classes according to their degrees of merit, the

arrangement in each of the classes being alphabetical. This is the method of conferring honours in public Examinations adopted at Oxford, which was my own University; and I believe that it is as near an approximation to accuracy in distinguishing degrees of merit as the nature of such a subject as History will admit. My questions were quite up to the University standard, and the answers as a whole, seem to me very creditable to the candidates."

The Lectures on English Literature by the Ven. Archdeacon Leach were well attended. Of the fourteen who entered their names as students, ten came up for examination, five of whom received certificates of the first Class.

Professor JOHNSON reports:—

MONTREAL, Dec. 16th, 1872.

To the Secretary of the

Ladies' Educational Association :

DEAR MADAM,—My Report on the attendance and progress of the students at the twenty Lectures which I had the honour to deliver to the Ladies' Educational Association is as follows:—

The Lectures, commencing on October 4th, and ending on December 2nd, consisted of fifteen on Astronomy and five on Magnetism.

Thirty-seven ladies registered their names as students. Nine presented themselves for examination on December 11th. Of these, seven were placed in the First Class; one in the Second; and one in the Third Class. The standard for First Class was about 75 per cent. of the whole number of marks assigned to the questions, but the majority actually obtained more than 90 per cent. I need hardly say then, that I consider not only this last answering, but the answering on the whole to have been remarkably good.

Many besides the students were constant attendants at

the Lectures, and I know that some of them, at least, although not caring to register their names formally, yet procured text-books and read them zealously. Indeed, there was a general eagerness for study exhibited which must have been highly gratifying to the ladies who formed the Association.

Two facts in the Examination seem to demand comment:—

1. The comparative smallness of the number of candidates.

2. The large proportion ranked in the First Class.

The first fact may, perhaps, be partly accounted for by the impossibility of obtaining a sufficient number of text-books in the city at the beginning of the session. The lectures were based on the assumption that there would be a simultaneous study of the text-book and of the lecture notes. The want therefore of books during the first fortnight (an interval including six of the fifteen Astronomical Lectures) would throw many students irretrievably into the background.

To prevent this in future, it would be well to name the text-books in the Programme, and to recommend that they be ordered from the booksellers two or three months in advance.

But, I fear, this may not have been the only cause for the absence of students from the Examination. The proportion of the First Class to the other Classes is so unusual that I cannot help thinking that many have abstained from presenting themselves because they did not sufficiently value a certificate of having passed the Examination, apart from that of First Class. This would be much to be regretted.

A separate Report contains in detail the results of the Examination.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER JOHNSON.

Rev. Professor MURRAY reports:—

MONTREAL, April 2nd, 1873.

*To the Honorary Secretary of the
Ladies' Educational Association:*

DEAR MADAM,—I have the honor to submit the following report, in reference to the Lectures on Logic, which I delivered to the Montreal Ladies' Educational Association.

Above forty ladies gave in their names as students. Besides these, a considerable number attended regularly, and seemed to take an interest in the lectures, some of them being diligent in taking notes. Of the students, the great majority were not only punctual in their attendance, but also very industrious in their studies. Nearly every week I prescribed exercises in the application of Logical rules; and these exercises were all performed by most of the students with an accuracy which to me was extremely gratifying. In general, a good number of each set of exercises were perfectly faultless. At the closing examination twenty-four students presented themselves. As the general merit of the answers I received was very high, I fixed on a high standard of classification. Those who reached more than seven-eighths of the maximum ($\frac{7}{8}$), I ranked in the First Class. Those under that, but above three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$), were placed in the Second Class; while those under three-fourths I formed into a Third Class. I have supplied a list of the marks attained by each student, from which you will observe that, of the twenty-four, fourteen are ranked in the First Class, while the remainder, with three exceptions, attained the standard of the Second Class.

Considering the limited time during which the subject was studied, I have been agreeably surprised at the thorough acquaintance with the fundamental principles of Logic evinced in many of the examination papers and other exercises.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully yours,

J. CLARK MURRAY.

DR. CRAIK, reports:—

MONTREAL, April 2nd, 1873.

To the Honorary Secretary

Ladies' Educational Association,

MADAM,—With reference to the short Course of Lectures on Chemistry which I had the honor of delivering before the Ladies' Educational Association, during the term just closed, I beg leave to present the following report:—

The attendance throughout the Course was large and uniform, consisting of between fifty and sixty students and a still larger number of lady auditors. Their attention, order and punctuality were deserving of the highest praise. In the first, or practice examination, twenty-one students took part and acquitted themselves remarkably well, their answers ranging from 100 (the full number of marks) down to 77, which was the lowest on the list.

At the final examination, eleven students presented themselves, all of whom passed in a satisfactory manner, many of the papers being of a degree of excellence for which I was by no means prepared. I can only regret that a larger number of students did not present themselves at this examination, as I am quite convinced that there were many others in the class, who could have passed with ease and even with distinction.

Of the eleven, I have certified four as having "passed with great credit, entitling them to rank in the first class"; five as having "passed with much credit"; and two as having "passed with credit."

I enclose herewith a copy of the questions submitted at the final examination, with the numbers and marks of those who took part in it.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT CRAIK.

DR. MACCALLUM reports :—

MONTREAL, April, 12th, 1873.

Honorary Secretary

Ladies' Educational Association :

MADAM,—I beg to report that for the Course of Ten Lectures on Physiology, which I had the honor of delivering before the Ladies' Educational Association during the Session 1872-73, eleven (11) students enrolled their names, and of these four (4) only presented themselves for examination. I cannot speak too highly of the manner in which these ladies have acquitted themselves in the written examination. The answers to the questions proposed, evidence the possession on their part of intellectual ability of a very high order, and an industry in the prosecution of their studies which does them great honor.

The general attendance on the Lectures was very good, and the ladies appeared to be much interested in the subject of Physiology.

I herewith transmit a copy of the questions submitted to the students, and the results of their examination.

I have the honor to be, Madam,

Yours very respectfully,

DUNCAN C. MACCALLUM.

The thanks of the Association are due to Dr MacCallum for his great kindness in giving an extra Lecture that he might complete the First large division of the subject of Physiology, viz. "The Vegetative Functions."

The thanks of the Association are also due to Rev. Professor MURRAY, who delivered the Inaugural Lecture to a crowded and attentive audience of Ladies and Gentlemen, 2nd October, 1872.

Two prizes were offered to students by the Trustees of the "Hannah Willard Lyman Memorial Fund" according

to the following recommendation received from McGill University.—

Recommendation for the disposal of the "Hannah Willard Lyman Memorial Fund" for the Session of 1872-73 :

1. The income to be divided into two equal prizes, to be given to the regular students, who, having passed creditably in the subjects of examination before Christmas, shall take the highest marks in the *first class*, in the written examinations, in one of the subjects at the end of the Session.

2. The Lecturers to be examiners, and the answers of the successful candidates to be transmitted to the Corporation of the University, with the reports of the Examiners.

3. The prizes to be given in books properly inscribed.

Five only have conformed to these conditions, out of thirty-nine students who came up for the different examinations during the Session.

Miss Margaretta E. Freer, and Miss Amy F. Murray, are the two successful candidates, the one for Logic, and the other for Chemistry and Physiology.

During the past year the Association has been happy in securing as its Patroness, Her Excellency the Countess of Dufferin, who sent the following kind and prompt reply to the request of the General Committee :

"The Countess of Dufferin has great pleasure in complying with the request of the General Committee of the Montreal Ladies' Educational Association, that she would become a Lady Patroness of that Association.

Being already interested in the subject, and having been President of a similar Association in Belfast, Lady Dufferin will watch with sincere interest, the progress and the success of the efforts made in Montreal to advance the Education of Women.

THE CITADEL, QUEBEC, September 14th.

During her visit to Montreal, the Countess of Dufferin was present at one of the Lectures on Chemistry, when interesting experiments with oxygen were shown, and the thanks of the Association were tendered to Her Excellency for kindly becoming their Lady Patroness.

The finances of the Association may be considered in a satisfactory condition. The receipts of this year from the

subscriptions of members, and the sale and exchange of tickets, amount to \$2,224; while the expenses amount to \$2206.60. This with the balance in hand from last year and the interest from the Bank, leaves the sum of \$665.52 in the Treasurers' hands.

Notwithstanding the many influences which exist in a place like Montreal adverse to the cultivation of the mind to any high degree, the reports of the Professors show that there is a strong desire for the higher education on the part of a good number. It is our object to provide for this higher education, not in a superficial manner, but by real training and instruction, beyond the point to which the schools carry their pupils, and in preparation for the true college course, which may soon have its existence amongst us. We differ from the latter, inasmuch as auditors are welcomed to the lecture room as well as students, and students are free to come, or not to come up for examination as they please. Here we would express our regret that the valuable opportunity which examination affords of proving to themselves and to the Lecturers how much they have learned of the subject, has not been more appreciated. It is the one regret running through the reports of nearly all the Professors. It is hoped, however, that the very good standing given to those who have passed may encourage many more to come in succeeding years.

The subjects recommended in the Report of last year, "which have for their object the cultivation of the English Language, and those which deal with mental science," have been taken up with much interest. The course on Logic has prepared the way for a longer course on Mental Philosophy, likely to form part of the Programme of the next Session, and if we may look further into the future, that also may be followed by one on Moral Philosophy. Here we would introduce the Report of the Committee on Lectures for the Session 1873-74.

*Report of the Committee on Lectures for the Session of
1873-74.*

Referring to the report of our predecessors for last year, we find that this fully stated the objects and methods of the Association with reference to its Lectures, in a manner to which we have nothing to add, except that the experience of last year seems to have confirmed the wisdom of its recommendations by the success of the Courses of Lectures which were then arranged.

In the same report suggestions were made for the session now in prospect, and these suggestions we think should in the main be adopted.

1. For the first month of the Session, we would advise that Professor GOLDWIN SMITH should be requested to continue the subject of English History : and since it will probably be necessary that he should deliver three Lectures in each week, we would advise that no other Course should be in progress at the same time.

2. As many students have expressed a wish for longer Courses, we think it would be well to arrange in this way for a Course of Mental Philosophy, a subject of such general interest and importance that it might be allowed to extend from the end of October till the end of the session, say 35 Lectures.

3. We would also advise that the valuable Lectures of last session on Astronomy and Magnetism should be followed by a Course on some other department of Physical Science, and that this should, if possible, be a course of 15 Lectures before Christmas.

4. We beg also to report that there is a very wide-felt desire on the part of our members and students for further instruction from the Lecturer on "Useful and Ornamental Stones." We recommend therefore that Principal DAWSON be invited to give the remaining 20 Lectures. While we suggest Geology as a desirable subject, we would leave the final choice with Principal DAWSON, who, in case he accedes to our request will assuredly consult our truest interests in the matter.

With reference to the session of 1874-5, we think that it would be very desirable to continue and extend the Lectures on English Language and Literature, and that the Philosophical teaching might probably enter into the department of Ethics, while there would still remain large scope for new subjects in Natural History and Natural Philosophy, the study of Music, &c., &c.

Should a College for Women be founded in Montreal, this will render unnecessary any attention on our part to the teaching of Elementary Mathematics and Classics, referred to in the report of last year; but should such an institution not be established, we think it would be necessary to bring this subject again before the minds of members of the Association, as deserving of consideration in the arrangements of 1874-5.

MARGARET A. Y. DAWSON.

JESSIE C. SCOTT.

JANE REDPATH.

LUCY M. BROWN.

FRANCES M. LANG.

"The lips of knowledge are a precious jewel." We would help our young women to the possession of this treasure. While on the one hand, we provide subjects of study which prepare the mind to think correctly, on the other, we furnish the mind so trained with the knowledge of facts in Nature and History upon which to reflect and reason, and from which to draw valuable lessons. What more appropriate adornment is there than the knowledge of some of the many varied works of Nature? If we are directed to some of the most helpless and insignificant creatures for lessons of practical wisdom, should we not acquaint ourselves with the nature and habits of the animal creation? If the Great Teacher Himself bids us "Consider the lilies *how* they grow," is it not wise in us so to understand the principles of their life and growth, that the richer and more beautiful lessons they teach, may be received by us? Should we know nothing of the bodies we inhabit, "so fearfully and wonderfully made," the care of which in early years is left so much in the hands of women, or of the nature and properties of all

those things provided for the nourishment of the body; not only that the questions which enter so largely into the life of every woman for herself and others, "What shall we eat, and what shall we drink, and wherewithal shall we be clothed," may be intelligently answered, but that the mind itself may be refreshed by the consideration of those great works which minister so largely to man's comfort and need? There is this advantage about the study of Nature, while there are truths which exercise, and go beyond the strongest intellects, there are object lessons, that may inform and delight the mind of a child. And if the early mental training comes also within the province of woman, surely for this reason as well, the knowledge of some at least of the branches of science, should form a part of the liberal education of all.

(Signed)

ANNE MOLSON,

President.

EMMA H. LUNN,

Hon. Sec.

Students who obtained Certificates of the First Class during the Session 1872-73.

Early English History.	Early English Literature	Astronomy and Magnetism.	Logic.	Chemistry.	Physiology.
PROFESSOR GOLDWIN SMITH, M.A. — Miss Dawson. Miss M. E. Freer. Miss A. F. Murray. Miss Georgie Woodward.	VENBLE, ARCHDEACON LEACH, D.O.L. { Miss M. E. Freer. Miss A. F. Murray. Miss Jenkins. Miss A. E. Red- path. Miss A. J. Long.	PROFESSOR JOHNSON, LL.D. — Miss M. E. Freer. Miss A. F. Murray. { Miss A. E. Red- path. Miss Dougall. Miss H. Morgan. Miss Emily Red- path. Miss A. J. Long.	REV. PROFESSOR MURRAY. — Miss Symmers. Miss Mary Brown. { Miss M. E. Freer. Miss G. Woodward. Miss A. E. Red- path. Miss E. Redpath. Miss H. Kerry. Miss M. Ritchie. Miss Alice Coch- rane. Miss H. Gardner. Miss A. J. Long. Mrs. Scott. Miss R. Easty.	PROFESSOR CRAIK, M.D. — Miss Symmers. Miss A. F. Murray. Miss A. E. Redpath. Miss Emily Redpath.	PROFESSOR MACCALLUM, M.D. — Miss A. F. Murray. Miss M. E. Freer. Miss Dawson.

Dr. The Montreal Ladies' Educational Association.—Financial Statement.—Session 1872-73. Cr.

1873.			1873.	
May 5.	To Payments for Lectures.....	\$1060.00	May 5.	By Balance from last year
"	To Rent of Natural History Society's rooms, and attendance on Lectures and Examinations.....	168.00	"	By Members' Tickets—164 @ \$12.....
"	To Stationery, Printing, Advertising, and Postage	196.16	"	By Students' Tickets and Exchanges..
"	To Salary of Assistant Secretary.....	200.00	"	By Interest to 31st Dec. 1872 on cash in Bank.....
"	To Expenses of Lectures on Astronomy	39.74		
"	To Cab-hire and Express.....	2.70		
"	To balance—Cash in Molson's Bank...	665.52		
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		\$2872.12		<hr/>
				\$2872.12

Examined and found correct,

J. WOLFERSTAN THOMAS.